



## **Zero Waste Arlington Sept 2023 - Meeting Minutes**

Date: 9/28/23

Time: 7pm

Location: *Online Zoom Meeting*

Attendees: Priya Sankalia, Scott Mullen, Margie Bell, Jennifer Campbell, Jim Ballin, Larry Slotnick, Paul Goldberg, Charlotte Milan

**Guests:** Honey Gala, Jim DiTullio

1. Old Business
  - a. Review and approve August 2023 ZWA meeting minutes.
2. New Business
  - a. Town Day Review
    - i. Recap of Day
    - ii. Next Steps/Follow Up Actions
  - b. Waste reduction warrant articles discussion
  - c. Subcommittee Updates
  - d. Miscellaneous Topics

### **Minutes**

1. The committee approved minutes for August 2023.
2. Town Day Review
  - a. Take Out Pilot
  - b. Margie provided an update and summary on the takeaways from the takeout pilot.
  - c. Discussion on cleaning of the containers and what the options are. Margie will work with Charlotte on this.
  - d. Discussion on the beer garden opportunity for reuse - Larry updated the committee that there is robust recycling there.
  - e. Water Truck went really well despite the weather. Not too many cups walked - most were returned. Only 30 lost.
    - i. In general people were good about returning the cups and they used the bottles as well (almost a 100)
    - ii. Not too many hygiene concerns - happy to take the cup or bottle
    - iii. Not too many brought their own bottles - continuing part of our messaging
    - iv. Reserve the water truck as soon as date for Town Day is set

- v. Location is also a consideration - closer to the food
    - vi. Next year we'll be advocating for more space
    - vii. 50-60 gallons this year much more than last years but could be more
  - f. Booth Update
    - i. Success on all front
    - ii. Nice to have something eye catching item and then they can come close - mannequin
    - iii. A lot of textiles questions; a lot of questions about what to recycle and what not to
  - g. There really wasn't a Town Day Committee this year - probably because of a change of guard
  - h. Writing up an evaluation of how it went - a one-pager on how things went would be good. We could go to a Select Board meeting to present to get it into the official record.
  - i. Budget - under budget. Any \$\$ we got as donations should be spent.
3. Waste Reduction warrant articles
- a. Jim Ballin introduced Jim DiTullio who worked with him on the plastic bag ban. He is interested in discussing options on warrant articles
  - b. Early Jan is when they need to be submitted if we want to consider them.
  - c. He is interested in bringing a nip ban - something that has gained traction recently with a lot of towns picking it up. Chelsea was a leader in this. Litter, not recyclable, health issues. Shared some data on opposition and response.
  - d. What other issues can we think of? We would need to be judicious on the bans - good discussion to be having.
  - e. Margie talked about Newton and the new ordinance that they've passed
  - f. Paul - what if the push back we might get if residents see us as a committee of NO. Might limit us on other initiatives. Good discussion.
  - g. Larry - might be a matter for town leaders to tackle rather than our committee. Quantity of how much it is might not matter in the whole scheme of things. The Health Dept could work with the Select Board.
  - h. Jennifer - how do we deal with the boxed water. Maybe something we should consider for Town Meeting. Also a lot of effort goes into leading a warrant article so we have to be cognisant of that when we take on a lead role in presenting an article to Town Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30